What is claimed is:

1. An echogenic device comprising a porous polymeric material that is at least a portion of a structural component of the device.

2. The device of claim 1, wherein the porous polymeric material is preparable by providing a phase separated composition comprising a polymer and an extractable material, and extracting the extractable material from the composition.

3. The device of claim 1 wherein the device is positionable within a medium.

4. The device of claim 1 wherein the device is a medical device for insertion in human or animal tissue.

5. An echogenically enhanced medical device preparable by:

providing a phase separated composition comprising a polymer and an extractable material;

shaping the composition to form at least a portion of a structural component of the device; and

extracting the extractable material from the composition.

6. A method for preparing an echogenically enhanced device, the method comprising:

providing a phase separated composition comprising a polymer and an extractable material;

shaping the composition to form at least a portion of the device; and

extracting the extractable material from the composition.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein the device is a medical device for insertion in human or animal tissue.

8. A method for preparing an echogenically enhanced medical device, the method comprising:

providing at least a structural component of the medical device;

applying a phase separated composition comprising a polymer and an extractable material to the structural component of the medical device; and

extracting the extractable material from the composition.

9. A method for sonically imaging a device, the method comprising:

providing a device having a porous polymeric material that is at least a portion of a structural component of the device;

positioning the device in a sonic imaging beam; and

generating an image of the device from the sonic imaging beam.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein the porous polymeric material is preparable by providing a phase separated composition comprising a polymer and an extractable material, and extracting the extractable material from the composition.

11. An echogenic device comprising a composition that is preparable by curing a polymer having porous particles therein by irradiation with ultraviolet light.

12. The device of claim 11 wherein the device is positionable within a medium.

13. The device of claim 11 wherein the device is a medical device for insertion in human or animal tissue.

14. A method for increasing the echogenicity of a device, the method comprising:

providing a polymer that is curable by irradiation with ultraviolet light;

blending porous particles with the polymer to produce a composition that is curable by irradiation with ultraviolet light;

shaping the composition to form at least a portion of the device; and

curing the composition by irradiation with ultraviolet light.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein the device is a medical device for insertion in human or animal tissue.

16. A method for preparing an echogenically enhanced device, the method comprising:

providing at least a structural component of the medical device;

providing a polymer that is curable by irradiation with ultraviolet light;

blending porous particles with the polymer to produce a composition that is curable by irradiation with ultraviolet light;

applying the composition to the structural component of the medical device; and

curing the composition by irradiation with ultraviolet light.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein the device is a medical device for insertion in human or animal tissue.

18. A method for sonically imaging a device, the method comprising:

providing a device comprising a composition that is preparable by curing a polymer having porous particles therein by irradiation with ultraviolet light; and

generating an image of the device from the sonic imaging beam.